

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claim 2. Please amend Claims 1, 3, and 4. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Currently Amended) An underivatized, aqueous soluble β -glucan preparation in triple helix conformation which enhances killing activity of immune cells ~~host defense mechanisms to infection~~ and does not induce an inflammatory response.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) An underivatized, aqueous soluble β -glucan composition in a triple helix conformation having a higher ~~high~~ affinity to ~~the~~ glucan receptors ~~receptor~~ on monocytes than other glucan receptor ligands and which enhances microbicidal activity of phagocytic cells and hematopoietic ~~the hemopoietic~~ activity of monocytes, neutrophils and platelets.
4. (Currently Amended) An underivatized, aqueous soluble β -glucan composition in a triple helix conformation which is effective in mobilizing monocytes, neutrophils or platelets ~~the hosts normal immune defenses~~.